

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Saluja et al.
Serial No. : 10/579,865
Filed : June 7, 2007
Title : PANCREATITIS

Art Unit : 1633
Examiner : Michael D. Burkhardt
Conf. No. : 3834

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the restriction requirement made in the action mailed May 25, 2011, identified Group 1 (claims 1-8) is elected for examination. The election is made provisionally and with traverse, in that Applicants submit that claims 9-24 are simply further steps in the method of claim 1 and that examining such claims together with those of Group 1 would not constitute an undue burden on the Examiner. Applicants further note that this is a national stage case and is thus entitled to the unity of invention standard. The Mansell et al. reference neither teaches nor suggests that TLR4 plays a role in pancreatitis, and does not anticipate or make obvious the claimed methods, in which a test compound that reduces the activity of the TLR4 protein is selected as a candidate therapeutic agent for use in the treatment of acute pancreatitis. Therefore Applicants request that the Examiner kindly withdraw the restriction requirement and examine all of the pending claims in the present case.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EFS-WEB FILING

I hereby certify that this paper was filed with the Patent and Trademark Office using the EFS-WEB system on this date: June 24, 2011.